

ABSTRACT

The invention relates to the use of phospholipases, v.gr. sPLA₂, as an active agent in the production of pharmaceutical and/or cosmetic compositions for the treatment of diseases caused by micro-organisms, the envelope or membrane of which comprises phospholipids, particularly glycerophospholipids. In particular, said invention relates to the use of sPLA₂ from *Crotalus durissus terrificus* venom as a biocide component for the preparation of compositions for the treatment of viral infections, particularly acquired immunodeficiency states VIH-1 and VIH-2, bacterial and parasitic infections, such as infections caused by plasmodium and leishmania-type parasites.